WILDLIFEDIRECT

Newsletter
Issue #8
July 10th, 2020

WILDLIFE WARRIORS KIDS

Hello Wildlife Warriors!
Stay connected to nature even when you are at home in this eighth edition of the weekly wild update.

Photo of Jobo, a chimpanzee at Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary courtesy of Ol Pejeta Conservancy.

In this issue, we bring you one of the primates; the **Chimpanzee!!!** Have you ever seen a chimp? Please read on! We continue to give you tips on how to take the **BEST** photographs as you prepare for season two of the Nature's Treasures Photo Competition starting this August, wild jokes, much much more…

Stay with us on this fun filled adventure. Always remember to share with your family and friends.

KIDS AND PHOTOGRAPHY!

Photo of a Red - eyed dove by June Mwangi (11)

June submitted her photos during Season One of the Nature's Treasures Photo competition and won twice in the junior category.

Keep reading the photography tips and practicing your photography skills to get better at nature photography!!

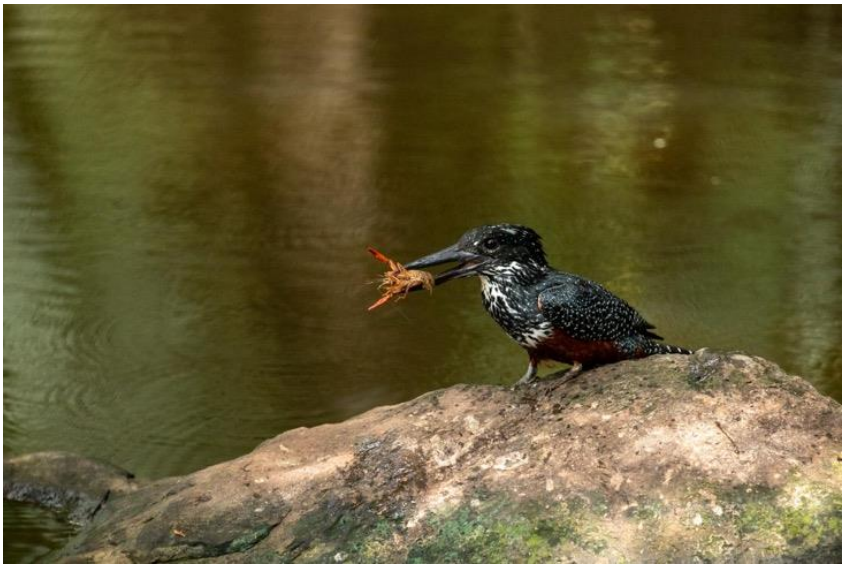
Get ready for season two of the Nature's Treasures Photo Competition starting this August!!!!

PHOTOGRAPHY TIP BY USHA HARISH!

Check your background

What is a background? This is part of the overall scene. It's behind the main subject of the photograph.

In this picture, a Giant Kingfisher has caught prey and is feeding but the twig at the background is distracting the scene, completely. Is it not?



Here, the Giant Kingfisher's background does not have any distractions and we can clearly see it feeding.

USHA HARISH
PHOTOGRAPHY

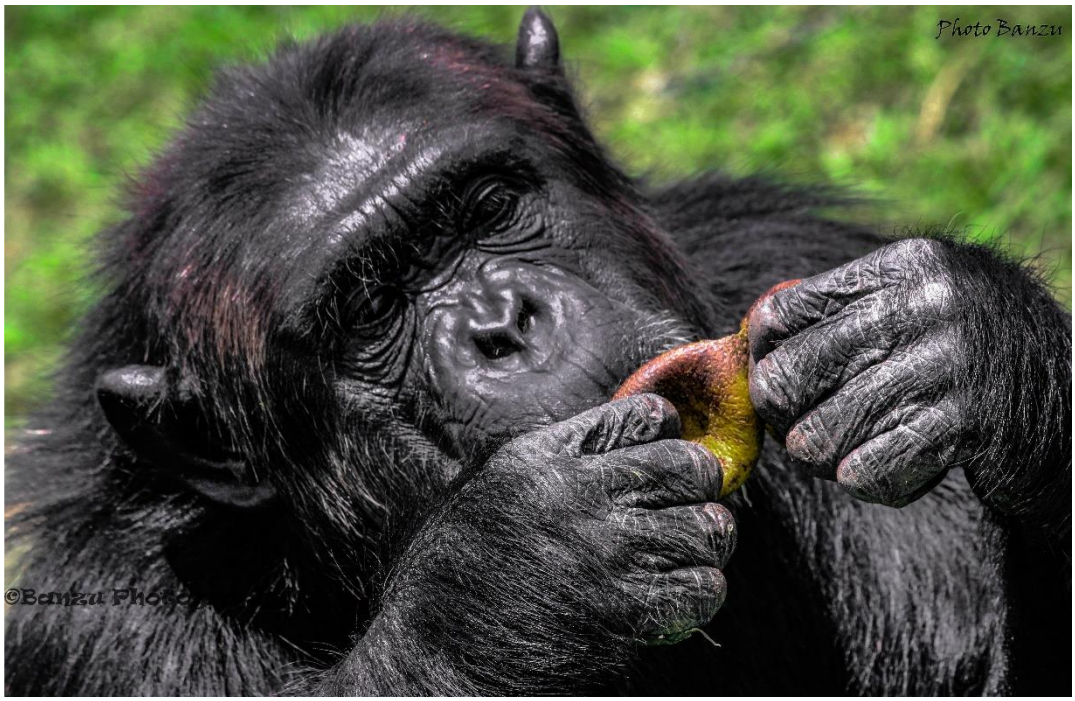
IN THE WILD WITH CHIMPANZEES!

Chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*), or simply **chimps**, are a species of great ape native to the forests and savannahs of 21 countries in Africa.

They are from the same family as orangutans, gorillas and bonobos. Chimp's bodies are covered in rough black hair, but their faces, fingers, toes, palms of the hands, and soles of the feet are bare.

Adult males stand at over a metre tall and weigh between 35 and 70 kilograms.

Chimps have long arms for climbing and nimble hands and feet with opposable thumbs to grasp objects and branches.



Chimpanzee by Jackline Nzuva

They are omnivores. Although their diet mainly consists of ripe fruit, young leaves and seeds, they will sometimes eat insects, eggs, nestlings and occasionally hunt small mammals.

Chimpanzees are 98.6% similar to human beings! They are the only wild animal relatives we have.

Just like humans, chimpanzees show affection, submission, love and always maintain friendship and family bonds.

Chimpanzees live in complex communities of between 15 and 100. The groups are led by a dominant male also called the "alpha male".

Female chimpanzees start having babies at 8-9 years of age. The gestation period is 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 months.

THREATS TO CHIMPANZEES!

The chimpanzees are classified as **Endangered and of global conservation concern** as their population is decreasing rapidly.

Chimpanzees are mainly under threat from **human actions.**

Hunted for Bush Meat- In some communities, chimpanzees are killed for their meat. Eating meat from wild animals is cruel and risky. Those who eat meat from wild animals risk catching diseases such as **Ebola, Corona Virus and Anthrax**

Habitat loss- Chimpanzees are loosing their homes due to the high rate at which forests are being cut down for agriculture, settlement and other development activities.

Climate change, severe weather conditions and natural hazards such as fire are also a threat to their survival.

CHIMPS OF OL PEJETA!

The chimpanzees' natural home range spans from Senegal on the West African coast, through the central forested belt of Africa, to Uganda.

They are not native to Kenya, but when a rescue centre in Burundi had to be closed due to the civil war outbreak in 1993 – Ol Pejeta Conservancy in Laikipia opened its doors. The **Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary** is the only place you can see Chimps in Kenya.
The sanctuary provides lifelong refuge to orphaned and abused chimpanzees from West and Central Africa and is currently home to 36 chimps.

Lets meet one of them!

CHIMPS OF OL PEJETA!

Name: Poco

Gender: Male
DOB: 1980
Origin: Burundi

Photo by: Ol Pejeta Conservancy

Poco spent the first nine years of his life in a cage suspended above a workshop in Burundi. Confined and used to attract customers, Poco had so little space he was only able to sit or stand on two legs – quite unnatural for a chimpanzee.

Even today, Poco will still stands on his hind legs, especially when showing off to visitors. Poco arrived to Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary in 1995 from Burundi, where it is said he was leader of the chimpanzee group.

Poco has made great progress in learning how to knuckle-walk like normal chimpanzees. He really likes people and will strut or throw sticks to get the attention of visitors. Poco is one of the gentler chimpanzees and his bipedal swagger ensures he stands out from the crowd.

WHAT WE LEARN FROM POCO'S STORY!

- Wild animals should not be held captive.
- Wild animals should not be mistreated.
- Wild animals should not be kept as pets. They should be left to live in their original homes
- Just like human beings, chimps learn how to sit, walk and stand when they are babies.
- Selling of wild animals is cruel and also against the law in many countries including Kenya.

You can adopt a chimp here
https://donate.olpejetaconservancy.org/ProjectsPreview.aspx?CatID=1067

MEET DR. JANE GOODALL

(Excerpt from NTV Wild Season 2 Episode 3 – 28th July, 2016)

Dr. Jane Goodall was born in 1934 and is known all over the world for her expertise with chimps. She has spent over 55 years studying chimps and their behaviour.

Q: After spending all these years studying chimps, how did it all begin?

A: I was born in England and loved animals from a very young age. My mother was very supportive and never got angry when she found me with worms and other creatures inside the house. I was always very curious. I asked a lot of questions and when I didn't get the answers, I would find out for myself. Back then, there were no TVs in those days so I would read books. When I was 10 years old, I found a second hand book called "Tarzan and the Apes" and that is when I decided that I would go to Africa, I would live with animals and write books. Everyone laughed at me. I was a girl; girls didn't do such things. But my mum said: "If you really want to do this, you must work very hard… and never give up". When I grew older, I got a job as a secretary and saved my money. I had a friend living in Kenya and when I had enough money, I got on the boat and went to Kenya.

...MEET DR. JANE GOODALL

Q: What was your reaction the first time you saw chimps?

A: The interesting part was their reaction on seeing me. The chimps had never seen a white ape before. They took one look at me and ran away. After studying them for 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ months, I one day saw a chimp use a branch to help him catch termites living in a mound.
He would stick the branch inside the hole and pull it out with termites, and eat them. That was the first time that humans learned that chimpanzees use tools. Before that, it was believed that only humans could use tools.

Q: What did you come to learn about chimps over the years of study?

A: I learned that each chimp is very different from the other. They have their own characteristics and personalities. They are very bright, smart and very much like humans. They are caring, they disagree and even fight among themselves. Some are smarter, others are stronger and the smarter ones always achieve more.

Q: What were your special moments?

A: One was when a female named Flo, who had just a baby; the baby was about 4 months old, I got near them and she then let the baby walk. The baby came right up to me and touched my nose.

…MEET DR. JANE GOODALL

Q: What were your major challenges?
A: The weather, it wasn't what I was used to. Money, sometimes, there was difficulty getting money to continue the work. When I went to present my work back to the university in England, the professors dismissed all the work I had done. Because this was information no one had gathered before, they didn't believe it.

Q: We have heard of the Jane Goodall Institute. What is it about?
A: The institute started of mainly to continue the work I had established but through it, we have a program to empower young people to make a change. They are taught to conserve and protect animals, even domestic animals, protect the homes where these animals live and take care of the environment. This is greatly improving people's lives.

Q: Your advice for young people?
A: The young people are capable of doing so much for wildlife and the environment. They should never give up.

"Only If We Understand, Will We Care. Only If We Care, Will We Help. Only If We Help, Shall All Be Saved." – Jane Goodall

THE PRIMATES PUZZLE!

Did you know that chimpanzees belong to a large family know as the Primate family?

With the help of your family members/ friends, please find **FIVE** other members of the primate family on this puzzle!

A	C	Q	P	O	T	T	O
N	T	N	D	M	S	J	S
B	U	S	H	B	A	B	Y
V	A	C	W	A	D	V	K
X	U	M	Q	B	E	I	E
K	C	O	L	O	B	U	S
T	L	Z	N	O	W	P	B
Z	M	W	R	N	Y	O	A

HINT:

Their names start with the letters **P**, **C**, **B**, **S** and **B**

Please send your answers via SMS or WhatsApp to
0746 511 787
The winner will be mentioned in the next issue!

ANIMAL OF THE WEEK!
CHIMPANZEE

Did you know…

The life expectancy for a chimpanzee is between 40 to 50 years in the wild.

Well done Luuk!!!

Last week's Wild Quiz Winner was:

Luuk Lutjeboer (10) from Holland

The spots on a leopard's coat are called **rosettes**

WILD QUIZ

Apart from Chimps, please name the other great apes.

Send your answer via SMS or WhatsApp to 0746 511 787

ART FOR WILDLIFE!

Do you have a drawing, painting, essay or poem you would like to share with other kids? Please send a photo of your drawing and painting or a text/WhatsApp message with your poem /essay to 0746 511 787

WILD JOKES! 🤣

Q: What do you call an ape that wins the Olympics?
A: A chimpion!

Q: Where do chimps hear all their gossip?
A: The ape vine!

Q: What is a Chimpanzee's favorite cookie?
A: Chocolate chimp cookies!

Q: What did the male chimp say to the female chimp?
A: I go bananas over you!

Q: What's a Chimp's favourite month?
A: Ape-ril!

Q: What sort of key does a chimp need to open a banana?
A: A monk-key!

Wild jokes courtesy of Eric Sasia

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP NATURE!

Did you know that July is the plastic free month?!

This month, we will focus on the different ways to reduce plastic pollution.

By using just 1 plastic bottle, you are contributing to this 👇

Photo by Kevin Chege

We can reduce this kind of pollution by using reusable water bottles.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP NATURE!

What does REUSING mean?

This is the action of using something more than once.

Instead of buying water in a plastic bottle every time you need to, you can:

1. Ask your parents to buy the 1 or 2 litre bottle that can be reused all the time.

2. Ask your parents to get you a reusable water bottle.

Share with us what you have done this week to help nature by sending an SMS or WhatsApp text to 0746 511 787

THIS WEEK ON MY WILD AFRICA!

Did you know that chameleons are lizards?

These mysterious dwarf-like lions are known all over the world but live only in very particular places.

Watch My Wild Africa this Sunday on Citizen TV at 5:30 pm and learn more about the life of chameleons as they've never been seen before.

This is a journey of discovery into the forests of Madagascar, the savannahs of east and southern Africa, and the Namib desert you don't want to miss.

Watch the film with your family and tell us what you learnt by sending an **SMS** or **WhatsApp message** to **0746 511787**

COMING UP… DON'T MISS!

Photo by Shiru Ndegwa (14)

- Wildlife Warriors on Switch TV at 2:00pm on July 12th, 2020
- My Wild Africa on Citizen TV at 5:30pm on July 12th, 2020
- World Chimpanzee Day is on July 14th, 2020
- Shark Awareness Day is on July 14th, 2020
- World Snake Day is on July 16th, 2020

FOR PARENTS!

- Please tell us what you think of this newsletter by filling the second part of bit.ly/WWKIDS and we will get back to you.

- If you would love to support Wildlife Warriors Kids, please make a donation to:

PAYBILL NO. 600100

A/C NO. 0100003937598

Email us: info@wildlifedirect.org

Contact us on: +254 746 511 787

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